



Welcome to Blackford County Highlights

2005 Edition

*Highlights of Blackford County is a labor market information publication of the Indiana Department of Workforce Development.

This publication is provided annually for each of Indiana's 92 counties, 11 Economic Growth Regions and the State of Indiana.

Each publication includes a variety of demographic information: population, labor force estimates, industry employment, industry annual average wages, and firms and employment by size and by industry.

If you need further information about your area, you may call the regional analyst listed below. If you need labor market information for other areas, you will find a map of the regional analysts at the back of this publication and posted on our Internet website under *Resources*.

Additional labor market information is available on our Internet website.

Our website address is <http://www.in.gov/dwd/inews>

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Innovating Indiana: Strategic Research & Development Division



SUMMARY OF BLACKFORD COUNTY HIGHLIGHTS

Blackford County's population estimate for 2004 was 13,841 down 1.5 percent from the 2000 Census total. During this same time period, Indiana's total 2004 estimated population of 6,237,569 was up by 2.6 percent.

According to the 2000 Census 7,761 people twenty-five years of age or over were high school graduates and/or had post-high school education. That represented 81.3 percent of the twenty-five and up county population. Of that population, 980 or 10.3 percent were four year college graduates or greater. In 2004, of the 153 persons graduating high school that year, 75 or 49 percent intended to go on to higher education.

A total of 1,163 workers or 16 percent of the workforce commuted into Blackford County in 2003. Delaware County was sending the most workers into the county. Conversely, 2,917 or 32.3 percent of the labor force commuted to work outside of Blackford County. Delaware County received the most workers from Blackford County.

The estimated average unemployment rate for 2004 was 7.0 percent, above Indiana's annual average of 5.2 percent. The county's unemployment rate was based on an estimated average residential labor force of 6,710. Of that labor force 6,240 were employed and 470 were unemployed.

For the year 2004 there were 4,011 jobs at industries within the county. The largest employing industry in the county was manufacturing with 40.8 percent of the total industry employment. The education and health services (includes private and government employment) was second at 18.2 percent.

The industry showing the most growth in workers over a three year period (since 2001) was professional and business services increasing by 24 workers or 41.4 percent above 2001. 13.8 percent of employers in the county employed 20 or more workers and those represented 72.3 percent of all employment.

The all industry average 2004 earnings for the county was \$27,531 per year versus Indiana's \$34,693. The county average wage was an increase of 9.7 percent over the 2001 county industry average wage. None of Blackford County's 11 industry supersectors (including government) had annual average earnings greater than the Indiana average for those industries. The county's manufacturing industry had the highest average earnings at \$35,613 per year, with professional and business services second at \$29,462, while the industry with the lowest annual earnings number was leisure and hospitality services at \$9,170. The same industries statewide paid an average \$47,638, \$34,701, and \$13,875 per year, respectively.

POPULATION

BLACKFORD COUNTY AND CITY POPULATION

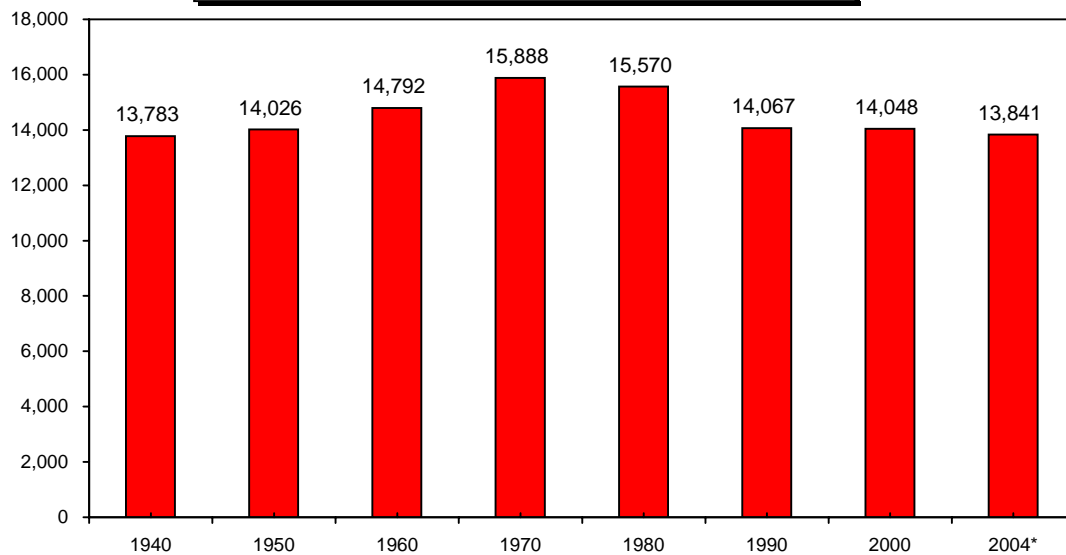
COUNTY & Cities/Towns	1990 Census	2000 Census	2004 Population Estimates	NUMERICAL CHANGE FROM 2000-2004	PERCENT CHANGE FROM 2000-2004
BLACKFORD CO	14,067	14,048	13,841	(207)	-1.5%
<i>Hartford City</i>	6,960	6,928	6,702	(226)	-3.3%
<i>Montpelier</i>	1,880	1,929	1,869	(60)	-3.1%

BLACKFORD COUNTY POPULATION

YEAR	POPULATION	NUMERICAL CHANGE	% CHANGE
1940	13,783	166	1.2%
1950	14,026	243	1.8%
1960	14,792	766	5.5%
1970	15,888	1,096	7.4%
1980	15,570	(318)	-2.0%
1990	14,067	(1,503)	-9.7%
2000	14,048	(19)	-0.1%
2004*	13,841	(207)	-1.5%

* population estimate

BLACKFORD COUNTY POPULATION



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1940-1999 Census; Stats Indiana 2000 Census and 2004 Population Estimate

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

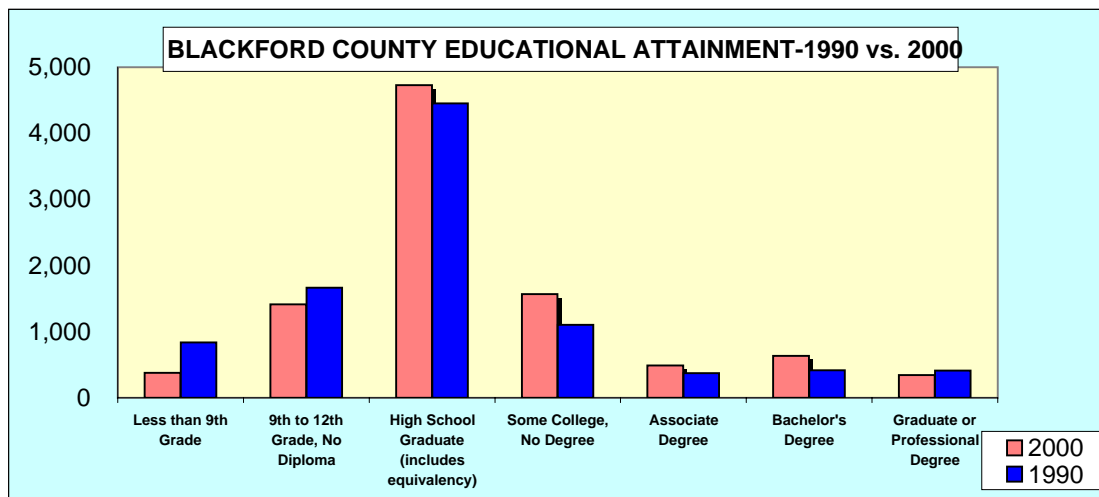
BLACKFORD COUNTY

2004 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES HIGHER EDUCATION INTENT

EDUCATION INTENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
Graduates	153	100.0%
Total to Higher Education	75	49.0%
Four-Year Institution	46	30.1%
Two-Year Institution	26	17.0%
Vocation/Tech. Institution	3	2.0%

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT - POPULATION 25 YEARS & OVER

EDUCATION LEVEL	1990	% IN 1990	2000	% IN 2000
Less than 9th Grade	835	9.0%	376	3.9%
9th to 12th Grade, No Diploma	1,666	18.0%	1,413	14.8%
High School Graduate (includes equivalency)	4,454	48.1%	4,727	49.5%
Some College, No Degree	1,102	11.9%	1,567	16.4%
Associate Degree	374	4.0%	487	5.1%
Bachelor's Degree	418	4.5%	634	6.6%
Graduate or Professional Degree	410	4.4%	346	3.6%
TOTAL - POPULATION 25 YEARS & OVER	9,259	100%	9,550	100%



Sources: Indiana Business Research Center, Stats Indiana and U.S. Census Bureau.

COMMUTING PATTERNS

BLACKFORD COUNTY COMMUTING PATTERNS

Number of persons who live in Blackford County and work (labor force)	9,019
Number of persons who live in Blackford County and work in Blackford County	6,102
Number of persons who live out of and work in Blackford County	1,163
Total number of persons who work in Blackford County (work force)	7,265

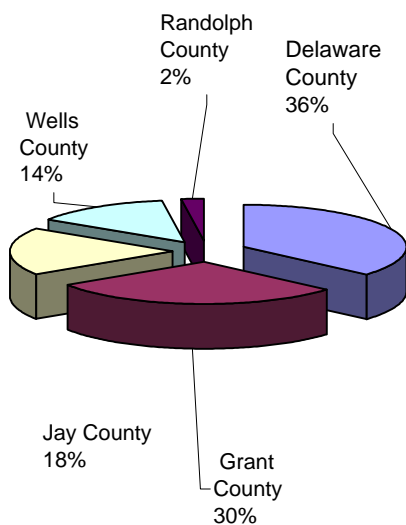
Top five counties sending workers INTO Blackford County:

Delaware County	338
Grant County	275
Jay County	171
Wells County	127
Randolph County	20
Total of above	931 workers equals 12.8% of work force

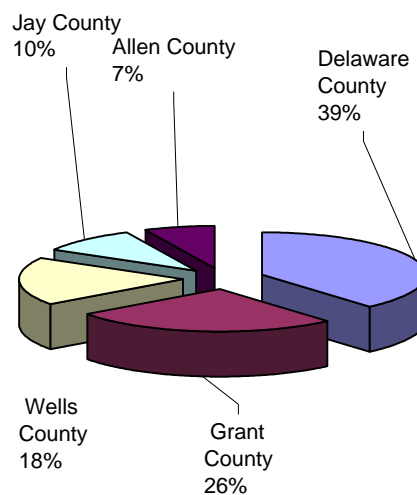
Top five counties receiving workers FROM Blackford County:

Delaware County	924
Grant County	628
Wells County	440
Jay County	229
Allen County	167
Total of above	2,388 workers equals 26.5% of labor force

Top five counties sending workers INTO Blackford County:

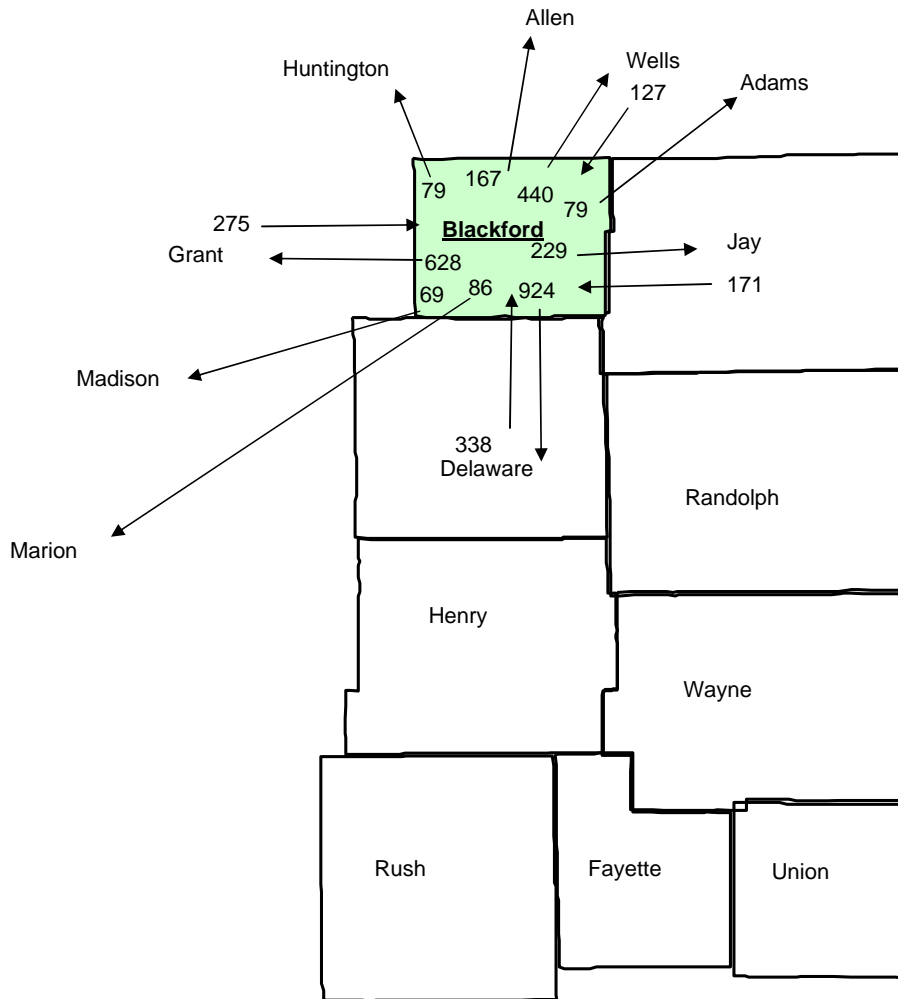


Top five counties receiving workers FROM Blackford County:



COMMUTING PATTERNS MAP

Blackford County



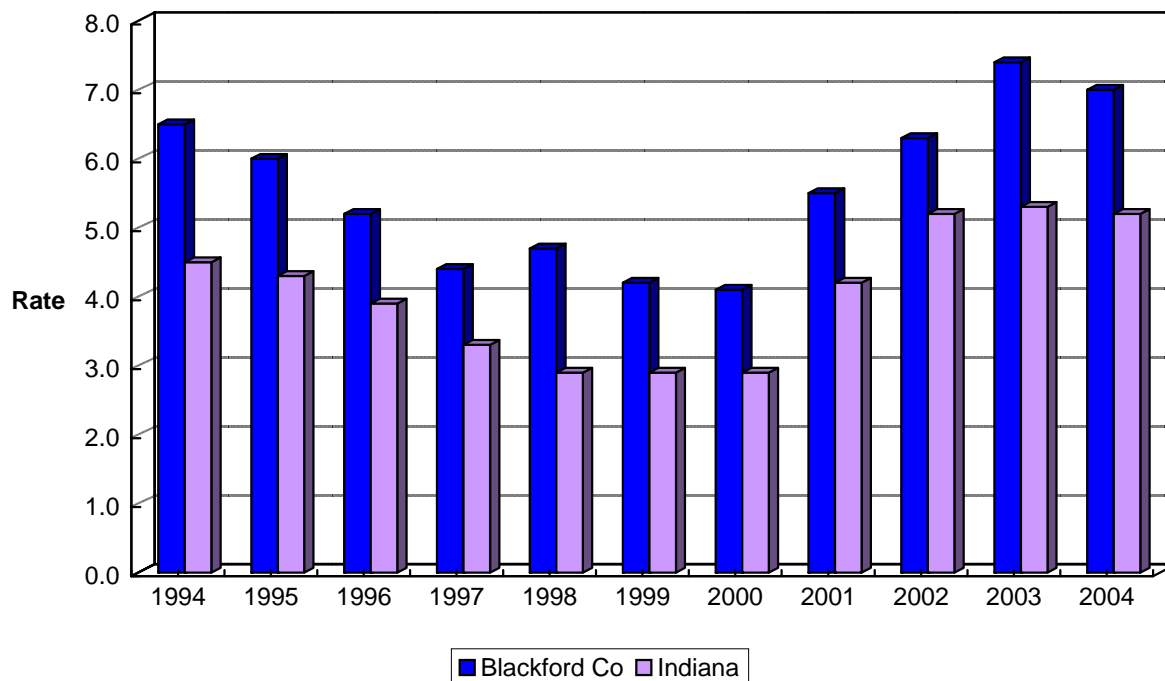
Data source: Indiana Dept. of Revenue IT-40 Returns for Tax Year 2003. Report generated by STATS Indiana, January 26, 2005. Counts of under 50 are not included. Commuters to/ from IL, MI, KY, OH, WI, and PA are reported separately and are not included in the 'Out of State' category.

LABOR FORCE INFORMATION

BLACKFORD COUNTY LABOR FORCE (1994-2004)

	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	Blackford Co RATE	Indiana RATE
1994	6,375	5,960	415	6.5	4.5
1995	6,445	6,055	390	6.0	4.3
1996	6,500	6,160	340	5.2	3.9
1997	6,570	6,280	290	4.4	3.3
1998	6,610	6,300	310	4.7	2.9
1999	6,515	6,240	275	4.2	2.9
2000	7,060	6,770	290	4.1	2.9
2001	7,030	6,640	390	5.5	4.2
2002	6,980	6,540	440	6.3	5.2
2003	6,885	6,375	510	7.4	5.3
2004	6,710	6,240	470	7.0	5.2

AVERAGE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE Blackford County vs. Indiana 1994-2004



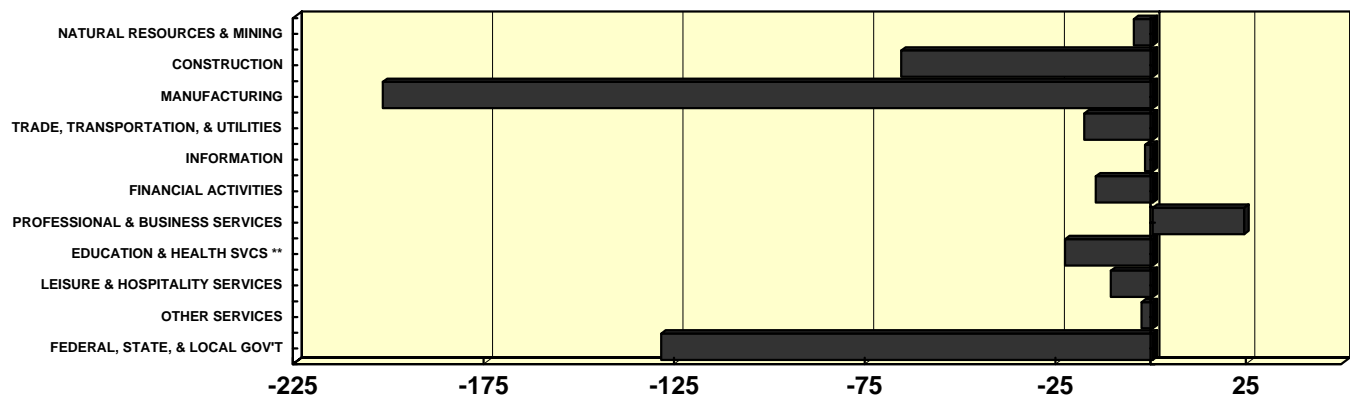
Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, Local Area Unemployment Statistics and U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.
Reflects new modeling approach and reestimation as of March 2005.

INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT

BLACKFORD COUNTY EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY 2001 to 2004

INDUSTRY SECTORS (NAICS)*	2004 NO. OF FIRMS	AVERAGE EMPLOYMENT				NUMERICAL CHANGE 2001-2004	PERCENT CHANGE 2001-2004
		2001	2002	2003	2004		
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT **	282	4,322	4,285	4,098	4,011	-311	-7.2%
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	5	44	44	40	39	-5	-11.4%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting		<i>Confidential</i>					
Mining		<i>Confidential</i>					
CONSTRUCTION	21	122	87	76	56	-66	-54.1%
MANUFACTURING	30	1,838	1,831	1,728	1,636	-202	-11.0%
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, & UTILITIES	77	691	681	656	673	-18	-2.6%
Wholesale Trade	10	101	105	95	100	-1	-1.0%
Retail Trade	50	500	500	480	472	-28	-5.6%
Transportation & Warehousing		<i>Confidential</i>				0	#DIV/0!
Utilities		<i>Confidential</i>				0	#DIV/0!
INFORMATION	6	36	33	32	34	-2	-5.6%
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	31	168	165	153	153	-15	-8.9%
Finance & Insurance	20	125	122	124	122	-3	-2.4%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	12	43	43	28	31	-12	-27.9%
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	24	58	73	92	82	24	41.4%
Professional & Technical Services	14	28	29	38	39	11	39.3%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	3	15	15	16	18	3	20.0%
Administrative & Waste Services	7	15	30	38	26	11	73.3%
EDUCATION & HEALTH SERVICES **	22	753	762	745	730	-23	-3.1%
Educational Services **	1	370	369	383	371	1	0.3%
Health Care & Social Assistance **	21	383	392	362	359	-24	-6.3%
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY SERVICES	22	262	268	241	251	-11	-4.2%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation		<i>Confidential</i>					
Accommodation & Food Services		<i>Confidential</i>					
OTHER SERVICES	25	87	74	71	84	-3	-3.4%
FEDERAL, STATE, & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	21	774	705	648	645	-129	-16.7%

Change in Blackford County Industry Employment 2001 To 2004



* NAICS - North American Industry Classification System. ** Includes private and government employment in this industry.

Confidential - Data suppressed due to confidentiality restrictions.

Notes: 1. Data may not add to total due to rounding, suppression of confidential numbers, inclusion of unclassified data, and duplication of government employment numbers. 2. Industries listed are "private industry" unless otherwise noted.

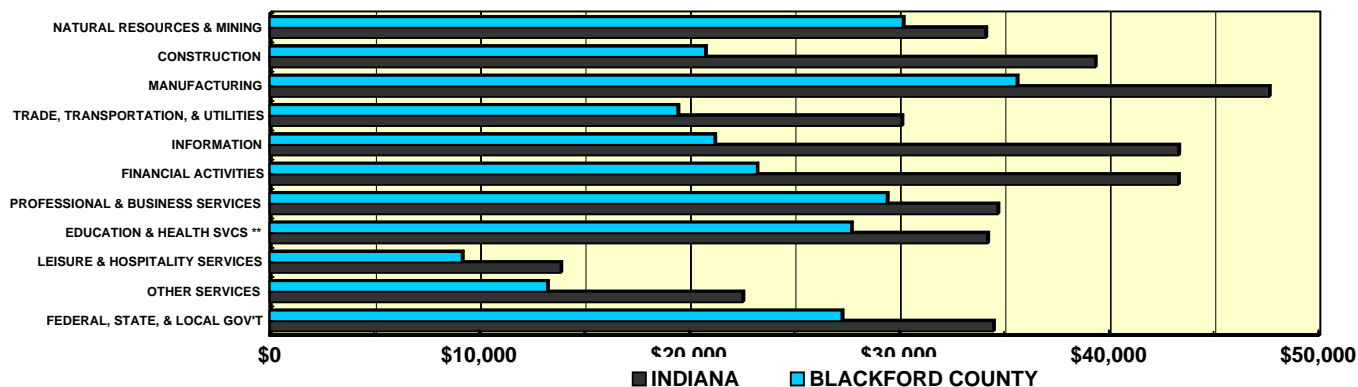
Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, Covered Employment

INDUSTRY EARNINGS

BLACKFORD COUNTY EARNINGS BY INDUSTRY 2001 to 2004

INDUSTRY SECTORS (NAICS)*	BLACKFORD COUNTY						2004	
	2001 WAGES	2002 WAGES	2003 WAGES	2004 WAGES	CHANGE 2001 to 2004		INDIANA 2004 WAGES	BLACKFORD % DIFFERENCE FROM INDIANA
ALL INDUSTRIES**	\$25,097	\$25,902	\$26,553	\$27,531	\$2,434	9.7%	\$34,693	-26.0%
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	\$28,858	\$28,364	\$28,898	\$30,183	\$1,325	4.6%	\$34,117	-13.0%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	Confidential						\$25,490	
Mining	Confidential						\$49,836	
CONSTRUCTION	\$31,078	\$30,309	\$27,396	\$20,764	-\$10,314	-33.2%	\$39,343	-89.5%
MANUFACTURING	\$31,074	\$32,597	\$33,225	\$35,613	\$4,539	14.6%	\$47,638	-33.8%
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, & UTILITIES	\$17,805	\$17,850	\$18,388	\$19,447	\$1,642	9.2%	\$30,126	-54.9%
Wholesale Trade	\$22,448	\$21,838	\$22,673	\$22,092	-\$356	-1.6%	\$46,107	-108.7%
Retail Trade	\$14,455	\$15,158	\$15,438	\$16,241	\$1,786	12.4%	\$21,445	-32.0%
Transportation & Warehousing	Confidential						\$35,135	
Utilities	Confidential						\$62,844	
INFORMATION	\$18,447	\$18,236	\$19,441	\$21,214	\$2,767	15.0%	\$43,315	-104.2%
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	\$20,582	\$20,307	\$21,472	\$23,225	\$2,643	12.8%	\$43,304	-86.5%
Finance & Insurance	\$23,295	\$22,898	\$22,846	\$25,545	\$2,250	9.7%	\$48,404	-89.5%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	\$12,735	\$12,975	\$15,426	\$13,960	\$1,225	9.6%	\$28,852	-106.7%
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	\$30,450	\$29,728	\$29,166	\$29,426	-\$1,024	-3.4%	\$34,701	-17.9%
Professional & Technical Services	\$20,159	\$21,489	\$20,691	\$20,642	\$483	2.4%	\$45,324	-119.6%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	\$48,713	\$52,766	\$51,582	\$46,510	-\$2,203	-4.5%	\$66,811	-43.6%
Administrative & Waste Services	\$31,174	\$26,374	\$28,136	\$31,000	-\$174	-0.6%	\$22,727	26.7%
EDUCATION & HEALTH SERVICES **	\$25,166	\$26,002	\$26,641	\$27,714	\$2,548	10.1%	\$34,206	-23.4%
Educational Services **	\$30,008	\$29,695	\$28,344	\$30,082	\$74	0.2%	\$33,107	-10.1%
Health Care & Social Assistance **	\$20,493	\$22,528	\$24,840	\$25,265	\$4,772	23.3%	\$34,965	-38.4%
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY SERVICES	\$8,419	\$8,795	\$9,181	\$9,170	\$751	8.9%	\$13,875	-51.3%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	Confidential						\$25,802	
Accommodation & Food Services	Confidential						\$11,574	
OTHER SERVICES	\$11,975	\$13,422	\$13,137	\$13,239	\$1,264	10.6%	\$22,543	-70.3%
FEDERAL, STATE, & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	\$26,288	\$26,473	\$26,864	\$27,269	\$981	3.7%	\$34,484	-26.5%

Blackford County and State of Indiana 2004 Earnings Comparison



* NAICS - North American Industry Classification System. ** Includes private and government employment in this industry.

Confidential - Data suppressed due to confidentiality restrictions.

Notes: 1. Industries listed are "private industry" unless otherwise noted. 2. Wage data are annual averages.

Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, Covered Employment

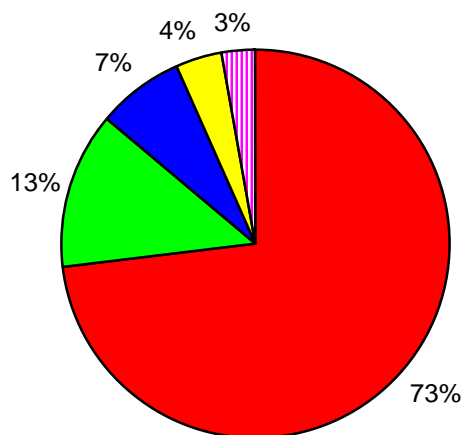
FIRMS & EMPLOYMENT by SIZE

BLACKFORD COUNTY FIRMS and EMPLOYMENT by SIZE

UNIT SIZE (Number Employed)	NUMBER of BUSINESS UNITS 1ST QUARTER 2004	EMPLOYMENT by BUSINESS UNIT SIZE MARCH 2004
0 - 9	207	620
10 - 19	37	505
20 - 49	20	609
50 - 99	11	720
100 & UP	8	1,612
TOTAL	283	4,066

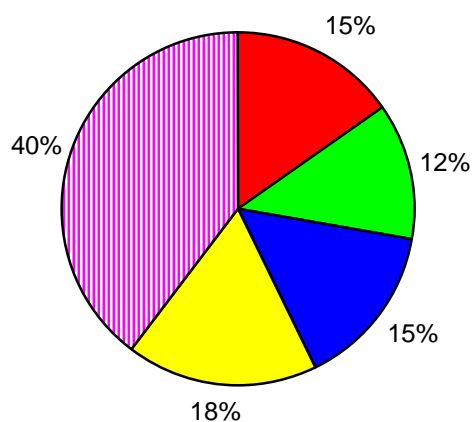
Business Units with zero employees and Federal Government Employees are included.

BUSINESS UNITS by SIZE
1st Quarter 2004



■ 0 - 9 ■ 10 - 19 ■ 20 - 49
■ 50 - 99 ■ 100 & UP

EMPLOYMENT by BUSINESS UNIT SIZE
March 2004



■ 0 - 9 ■ 10 - 19
■ 20 - 49 ■ 50 - 99
■ 100 & UP

SOURCE: Covered Employment, Research & Analysis, Indiana Department of Workforce Development



* * * * *

For over sixty years, industry information has been compiled using the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system. Since 1993, the industry data tables in this publication were classified by SIC.

Beginning with the 2002 issue of the Highlights report, new industry data tables are based upon the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

Developed jointly by the United States, Canada and Mexico to produce comparable data, NAICS was introduced in 1997 to replace the SIC system. Because of its' scope and complexity, the transition to NAICS has taken three years to complete and is now effective beginning with 2001.

NAICS provides a more specific classification system reflecting the economy's changing industrial composition. NAICS focuses on *how* products and services are created, as opposed to the SIC focus on *what* is produced.

This reorganization has created breaks in the industrial classification time series. Even though, for example, the Manufacturing industry group is still listed, the current statistical data for Manufacturing may not be comparable to what was previously shown.

Example: An industrial machine company has its employment offices in a separate building. Those workers may now be listed in the Professional and Business Services industry under NAICS, rather than in Manufacturing. The same is possible for other industries.

NAICS uses a six digit hierarchical coding system to classify all economic activity. NAICS-United States allows for the identification of 1,170 industries compared to the 1,004 found in the SIC system. NAICS classifications are reviewed every three years. For purposes of this publication we will be classifying economic activities into 11 NAICS 'super sectors' and 15 NAICS sectors.

* * * * *

The following is a listing of the NAICS 'super sectors' we will be using:

Natural Resources & Mining includes agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, and mining.

Construction

Manufacturing

Trade, Transportation & Utilities includes wholesale and retail trade, utilities, transportation, and warehousing.

Information includes publishing, motion pictures, sound recording, broadcasting, Internet publishing, telecommunications, ISPs, search portals, data processing, news syndicates, libraries, and archives.

Financial Activities includes finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing.

Professional & Business Services includes professional, scientific, and technical services, management of companies and enterprises, administrative/support, and waste management and remediation services.

Education & Health Services includes educational and health services, health care, and social assistance.

Leisure & Hospitality includes arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation, and food services.

Other Services includes repair, maintenance, personal, laundry services and religious, grant making, civic, social, and professional organizations and private households.

Federal, State & Local Government includes total government employment.

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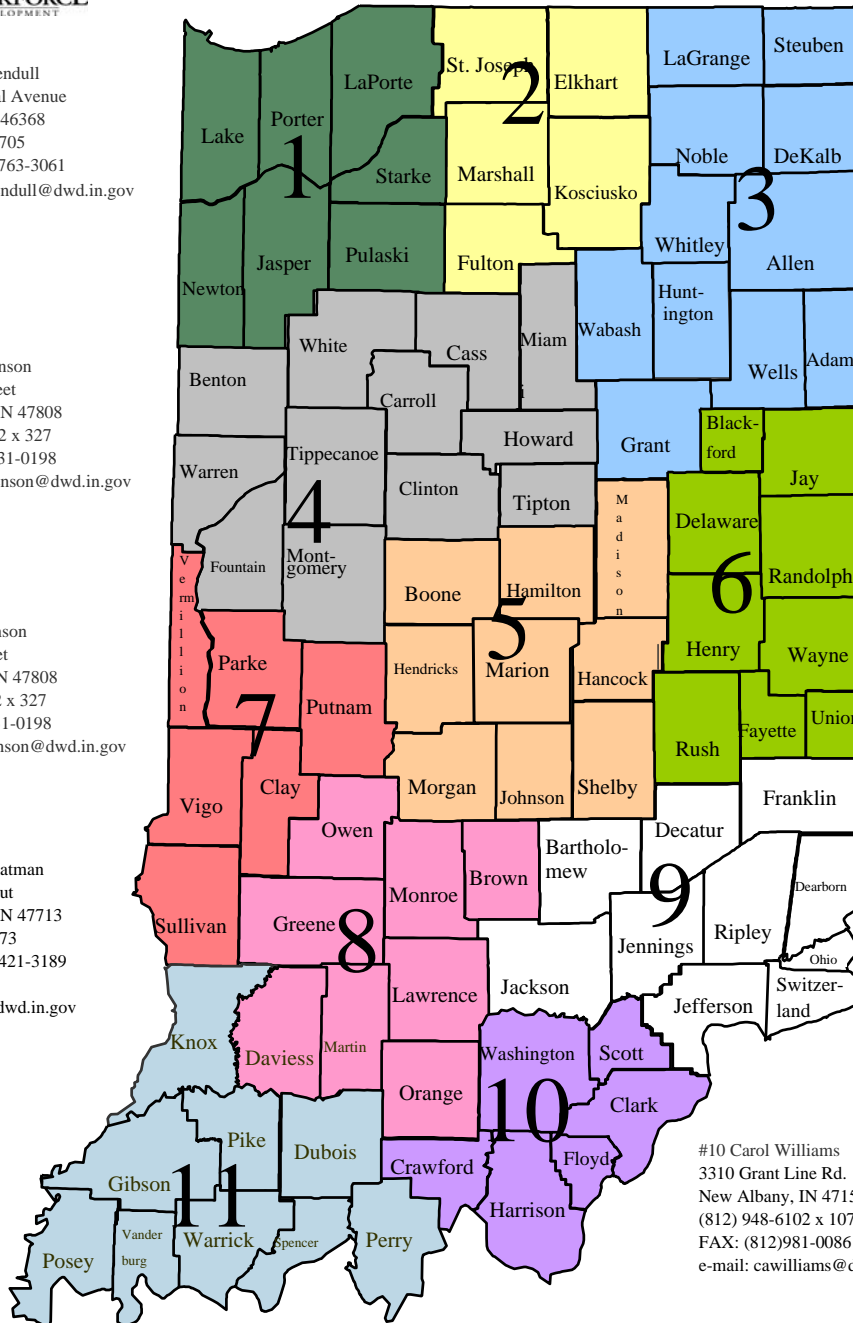
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